

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SY-04 PPT-02 VO-03 SCA-01 PER-05

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 L-03 /076 W

----- 064305

R 071500Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 432

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: TRAVEL CONTROLS

REF: A. DEPT A-3492, B. STATE 63208, C. LENINGRAD 240

1. IN CALL ON DIPLOMATIC AGENCY MAY 7, CONGEN AGAIN RAISED MATTER OF APPLICABILITY OF SOVIET RELAXATION OF TRAVEL CONTROLS TO CONGEN PERSONNEL. DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE POPOV AGAIN DENIED APPLICABILITY, MAINTAINING THAT LANGUAGE OF SOVIET NOTE OF FEBRUARY 18, 1974, CONCERNED ONLY CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES WHICH WERE 1 PART OF 1 MOSCOW EMBASSIES. POPOV ADDED THAT ANY RELAXATION IN TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS FOR CONSULATES IN LENINGRAD HAD TO BE NEGOTIATED

BILATERALLY. CONGEN REITERATED UNDERSTANDING THAT, ON CONTRARY, SOVIET RELAXATION OF RESTRICTIONS DID APPLY HERE.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT IN VIEW OF STATEMENTS OF SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR MYSHKOV REPORTED REF A, AND EMBASSY MOSCOWS SIMILAR ASSURANCES BY MFA OFFICIALS, THAT BEST WAY TO GET DIPLOMATIC AGENCY ON BOARD IS SIMPLE COMMUNICATION FROM MFA, INFORMING DIPLOMATIC AGENCY OF CORRECT INTERPRETATION. PERHAPS EMBASSY CAN STIMULATE THIS.

3. AT SAMETIME, POPOV CONFIRMED THAT EXISTING RIGHT OF CONGEN PERSONNEL

TO TRAVEL TO MOSCOW WITH 24-HOUR NOTICE IS BASED ON LAST YEARS EARLIER AGREEMENT." (PARA 1 OF REF C) THERE SEEMS LITTLE

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DOUBT THAT SOVIETS EXTENDED THIS RIGHT AS A RESULT OF EMBASSY

MOSCOWS NOTE 1069, DATED SEPTEMBER 14, 1973 (SENT PER STATE 179876),
EVEN THOUGH MFA TO OUR KNOWLEDGE NEVER ACTUALLY REPLIED IN
WRITING, AND CONGEN PERSONNEL HAVE ENJOYED RIGHT SINCE THAT TIME.
EMBASSYS VIEW IS THAT AGREEMENT WAS NOT IN FORCE IN ABSENCE OF
SOVIET REPLY TO COUNTER-OFFER CONTAINED IN NOTE. CONGEN WOULD
THUS BE CURIOUS AS TO WHETHER WE HAVE BEEN ENJOYING MORE THAN
SOVIETS WERE ACCORDED BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK PRIOR TO
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECENT TRAVEL MODIFICATIONS.
GLEYSTEN

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